

Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

From: Kiki Eglinton <kikieglin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:29 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: HB 7015, End of Life Choicefor the Terminally Ill and Mentally Competent

To: The Chairpersons and Members of the Judiciary Committee

I am writing to urge your support of HB 7015 that would permit compassionate aid in dying. This bill would further advance the options available for those suffering in the last months of their life, while providing safeguards for the implementation by requiring mental competency, self administration of the medication, and the approval of one's primary care physician and two psychiatrists. Those who maintain that others could control the end of another's life do not seem to understand the safeguards.

It is inconsistent that the medical profession can intervene to prolong our lives, but cannot legally intervene to assist us when we are no longer living a qualitative life. In fact, we may be in severe pain and emotional and psychological distress. In addition, in my 87th year, I have also experienced the suffering of those I love - my mother who at age 90 was suffering the pain of vascular disease, but did not have the choice to bring that suffering to an end. Pain medication was not enough.

I am aware that doctors and nurses take an oath to extend life, but much has changed since those days in Greece. Advances in medicine are allowing us to live longer and this may not be what we wish nor what is in our best interest.

Although in states where a similar law exists, a small number have taken advantage of the law, those who have were allowed death with dignity. We in Connecticut, and as a society deserve no less.

Sincerely,

Anne M. Eglinton
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